

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 08727 061549Z

47

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SYE-00 /016 W
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P 061501Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2463

INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY

MSGBN ARLINGTON VA PRIORITY

UNCLAS BEIRUT 8727

DEPT FOR A/SY/FO; KARACHI FOR RSS/RMO; MSGBN FOR CO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, MSG

SUBJECT: NCOIC BEIRUT - SSGT WAINWRIGHT

REF: (A) STATE 296197, (B) BEIRUT 8648

1. RSO HAS NOTED PROVISIONS OF 3 FAM 149.2-5 AND ACCORDING TO POST'S COPY DATED 7/12/73 A DISTINCTION IS MADE BETWEEN NCOICS AND WATCHSTANDERS: "NCOICS OF MARINE SECURITY GUARDS MAY BE MARRIED AT TIME OF ASSIGNMENT OR MAY REQUEST PERMISSION TO MARRY WHILE SO ASSIGNED." THE REMAINDER OF THE PARAGRAPH ADDRESSES ITSELF ONLY TO MARINE GUARDS. IN RSO'S READING OF THIS PARAGRAPH HE FOUND NO FURTHER REFERENCE TO NCOICS. IT IS THEREFORE THE RSO'S CONTENTION THAT CITED PARAGRAPH APPLIES ONLY TO NCOICS IN THE FIRST SENTENCE SINCE THE REMAINDER OF THE PARAGRAPH CLEARLY STATES "MARINE GUARDS."

2. PRIOR TO SUBMITTING HIS REQUEST, SSGT WAINWRIGHT CAREFULLY READ BNOP 5000 PARA 1702 (MARRIAGE OF MARINE SECURITY GUARDS OVERSEAS) AND ACCORDING TO 1702.2, A DISTINCTION IS AGAIN MADE BETWEEN NCOICS AND WATCHSTANDERS: "MARRIAGE OF NCOICS: NCOICS MAY MARRY ON POST, BUT MUST OBTAIN PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THEIR COMPANY COMMANDER. MARRIAGE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS WILL BE REPORTED IMMEDIATELY TO THIS HEADQUARTERS." ACCORDING TO PARA 1702.3.C., THIS DISTINCTION IS CARRIED
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FURTHER: "MSGs OTHER THAN NCOICs WHO MARRY PRIOR TO COMPLETION OF THEIR NAMED TOUR OF DUTY WILL BE RELIEVED AS UNSUITABLE." PARA 1702.3.D. SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSES ITSELF TO SSGT WAINWRIGHT'S CASE: "IN CASES WHERE NCOICs MARRY FOREIGN NATIONALS, SPECIFIC DETERMINATION REGARDING EARLY RELIEF FROM THE MSG PROGRAM WILL BE MADE AT THIS HEADQUARTERS UPON RECEIPT OF A COPY OF THE MARRIAGE REQUEST." IN NONE OF THESE REGULATIONS, EITHER 3 FAM OR THE BNO, DOES THE RSO FIND ANY INDICATION THAT SHOULD AN NCOIC MARRY WHILE ASSIGNED TO MSG DUTY HE WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE RELIEVED AS UNSUITABLE.

3. IT IS FULLY UNDERSTOOD THAT MARRIAGE TO A FOREIGN NATIONAL DOES PRESENT SPECIFIC PROBLEMS AND THAT MSGBN HEADQUARTERS MUST MAKE A DETERMINATION WHETHER THE NCOIC SHALL REMAIN ON THE PROGRAM OR BE RELIEVED. SSGT WAINWRIGHT, AS STATED IN REFTEL B, DESIRES TO REMAIN ON THE PROGRAM AND REMAIN IN BEIRUT IF POSSIBLE. IF THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, NCOIC REQUESTS THAT HE BE ALLOWED TO MARRY AND BE TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER POST AS NCOIC. FAILING THIS HE DESIRES TO BE TRANSFERRED TO 1ST MARDIV. WHAT SSGT WAINWRIGHT, AS A CAREER MARINE, WISHES TO AVOID AND THE RSO AND CHARGE ALSO WISH TO AVOID IS AN "UNSUITABLE RELIEF." SSGT WAINWRIGHT AS NCOIC BEIRUT HAS DONE AN OUTSTANDING JOB UNDER VERY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES AND POST BELIEVES THAT THIS TYPE OF RELIEF, IF RELIEF IS REQUIRED, WOULD BE AN EXTREMELY POOR REWARD FOR A JOB WELL DONE.

4. SSGT WAINWRIGHT MADE HIS MARRIAGE REQUEST IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING REGULATION. IF THESE REGULATIONS HAVE BEEN MODIFIED OR CHANGED, AND POST IS NOT AWARE OF ANY SUCH CHANGES, IT IS REQUESTED THAT HE NOT BE PENALIZED FOR LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OF THESE CHANGES. WE HOPE THAT ALL CONCERNED WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT SSGT WAINWRIGHT'S OUTSTANDING RECORD AND THE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES IN THIS CASE AND COOPERATE IN ARRIVING AT AN EQUITABLE SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM.
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